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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/080,528	02/22/2002	Kunio Harada	Q68626	8651

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EXAMINER

JENKINS, JERMAINE L

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2855

DATE MAILED: 06/03/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/080,528

Applicant(s)

HARADA, KUNIO

Examiner

Jermaine Jenkins

Art Unit

2855

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 March 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-11 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1, 3-8, & 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Wild et al.

In regards to claims 1 & 10, Wild et al teaches a lateral force measuring device for a tire (10) having a rotator (22, wherein the drum reads as a rotator) that rotates axially depending on the rotation of the tire (10) and force measurement devices (30(1), 30(2)) positioned along the drum axle (28) conveying corresponding signals to the computer (32) (Column 5, lines 4-18).

With respect to claims 3 & 4, Wild et al teaches the use of measuring devices (30(1), 30(2)) positioned along the drum axle (28) conveying corresponding signals due to the rotation of the drum (22) (Column 5, lines 4-18).

With respect to claim 5-8, Wild et al teaches a rotating axle (26) that rotates the tire (10) (Column 5, lines 8-10).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

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(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 2 & 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wild et al in view of Shibayama et al (5,483,823).

With respect to claims 2 & 11, Wild et al teaches the claimed except for rotation of one of a pair of pressed wheels. Shibayama et al discloses the rotation of the pair of front tires pressed against rollers (Column 4, line 65 – Column 5, line 10, Figures 1 & 7). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to rotate one of a pair of pressed wheels as shown by Shibayama et al in the system of Wild et al since the calculation of a pair of wheels would enhance the accuracy of the inspection of the rotated tires.

5. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wild et al in view of Harada Kunio (9-281009).

In regards to claim 9, Wild et al teaches the claimed invention except for the use of a vehicle inspecting system incorporating a lateral force-measuring device for a tire. However, Harada Kunio teaches the use of vehicle inspection equipment for measuring damping forces of vehicles (Page 2 of Detailed Description, lines 33-35). Therefore it would have been obvious to one of having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate a vehicle inspecting system into the lateral force-measuring device for tires for the purpose of detecting any type of interfering measurement value due to the force acting upon the pressed tire.

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Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jermaine Jenkins whose telephone number is 703-305-3839. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8am-430pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Lefkowitz can be reached on 703-305-4816. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-306-7382 for regular communications and 703-305-3839 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-3431.

Jermaine Jenkins
A.U. 2855
JJ
May 28, 2003


EDWARD LEFKOWITZ
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